

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the present title with the following rewritten title:

Page 4, immediately above first paragraph, insert the following paragraph heading:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

Page 4, second paragraph, replace as follows:

Referring to the drawing, a target fiber 1 is drawn from a perform (not shown) and is subjected to an environment to begin the coating process. The invention may be applied to any standard curing environment, including environments for applying primary and secondary coatings. As examples, an environment including a photoinitiator of 2-hydroxy-2-methyl-1-phenylpropan-1-one or 2, 4, 6-trimethylbenzoylphosphineoxide (or a combination thereof) can be used.

Page 5, last paragraph, replace with the following:

Referring to the Figure, the laser is irradiated in the direction of a beam expander 3. The collimated beam of the laser is in the form of an intense spot. If this spot were used for curing purposes, its intensity could potentially damage the target fiber as in conventional systems. Therefore, the beam expander [[4]] 3 is used to distribute the collimated beam having a small diameter of approximately 2 mm into a larger diameter of one to several inches. The expanded beam is further passed through a plano-concave lens 4 and a cylindrical lens 5 to focus the laser to a length of approximately 3-4 inches and having a diameter of several diameters of the target fiber. An exemplary diameter range for the striped beam is 1-3 mm. Opposite to the cylindrical

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lens on the other side of the fiber is a mirror 6 formed in a half-cylinder shape. The fiber is disposed in the center portion of the mirror. The mirror aids in distributing the light evenly about the target fiber.

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

In response to the Office Action dated January 26, 2004, and the objection to the drawings, Applicant submits an Annotated Marked-Up Drawing, as well as a Replacement sheet. The submission of the Replacement sheet should obviate any objection to the drawings.

**Attachment: Annotated Marked-Up Drawing
Replacement Sheet**